

REMARKS

Applicant notes with appreciation the detailed comments that the Examiner made in the Office Action in response to Applicant's previous arguments. The present amendments are responsive to the Examiner's concerns noted in the Office Action.

Telephonic Interview

Applicant appreciates the opportunity of a telephonic interview with the Examiner on February 28, 2005. The Office Action, cited and applied prior art and claim language were discussed, but the parties did not reach an agreement on mutually acceptable claim amendments.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant notes with appreciation the allowance of claims 20 and 27.

Prior Art Rejections

Applicant disagrees with the Examiner's rejection in the Office Action. However, in the interest of passing this case to early allowance without further delays, Applicant canceled the rejected independent claim 1, and amended all the dependent claims to be dependent upon the allowed independent claims 20 and 27.

Applicant reserves the right to file a continuation application to further prosecute the subject matter of the canceled claims at a later date.

CONCLUSION

In view of all the foregoing, Applicant submits that the claims pending in this application are patentable over the references of record and are in condition for allowance. Such action at an early date is earnestly solicited. **The Examiner is invited to call the undersigned representative to discuss any outstanding issues that may not have been adequately addressed in this response.**

Respectfully submitted,



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